

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 891

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate New York Giants General Manager Jerry Reese on the team's victory in Super Bowl XLII.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are extremely proud to honor one of this State's greatest ambassadors for his outstanding accomplishments both on and off the football field; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Reese attained professional football immortality on February 3, 2008, when his New York Giants defeated the New England Patriots 17-14 in Super Bowl XLII, earning him distinction as both the first African-American general manager to reach the Super Bowl and also the first African-American general manager to win in the National Football League's most prestigious contest; and

WHEREAS, respected by players, coaches, and fans throughout the National Football League for his commitment to the game, Mr. Reese has a long history of success in football; he embarked on his outstanding career as quarterback at his high school in Tiptonville, Tennessee, where he, as the quarterback, led the team to the state title in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Reese's stellar high school performance earned him a spot on the University of Tennessee-Martin's football team, and he stayed with the team after graduation as a member of the coaching staff, eventually climbing to the post of assistant head coach by 1994; and

WHEREAS, fourteen years ago, Mr. Reese brought his tireless work ethic and notable football talents to the New York Giants, serving first as a scout and later as the Director of Player Personnel before becoming the team's General Manager in January of 2007; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Reese, in just his first year as General Manager, conquered football's greatest challenge by winning the Super Bowl, as his Giants improbably upset the Patriots' historic drive to complete an entire season undefeated; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Reese's accomplishments reflect well upon his impeccable character founded on a remarkable work ethic, perseverance, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Reese epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Jerry Reese for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate New York Giants General Manager Jerry Reese upon the occasion of the team's victory in Super Bowl XLII, and we extend to him our best wishes for every continued success in life and professional football.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.